

# *News and Notes*

## **The University of Minnesota Meeting of Biological Societies**

THE American Institute of Biological Societies sponsored its second fall campus meeting for biologists Sept. 9-12 at the University of Minnesota. President Morrill described the meeting as the largest gathering of scientists ever assembled at that university. Total attendance, including wives and guests, was approximately 1,500, which exceeded preconvention estimates. On-campus dormitory and eating facilities were adequate to take care of even this large number, and conference and meeting rooms in campus buildings were only a short distance from the dormitories. The Coffman Memorial Union, one of the best-equipped buildings of its kind in the country, provided space for the Biological Sciences Exhibit Hall, headquarters of various societies; including AIBS, and the locale for the Biologists' Smoker.

Eleven biological societies took part in the meeting: the American Society for Horticultural Science, the American Society for Human Genetics, the American Society of Plant Physiologists, the American Bryological Society, the American Society of Naturalists, the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, the Botanical Society of America, the Ecological Society of America, the Genetics Society of America, the Mycological Society of America, and the Society for Industrial Microbiology.

Prior to the meeting, the Ecological Society had a three-day field program at the university's Biological Station at Itasca State Park, in northern Minnesota. Also before the meeting, the American Society of Bryologists had a field trip starting from Duluth and taking in the north shore of Lake Superior. During the meeting, numerous tours and demonstrations were arranged for society members and their wives, including visits to the Green Giant Company at LeSueur, Northrop King and Company, and General Mills.

The meeting began on Sunday, Sept. 9, with various council and executive board conferences, and with the opening of the Biological Sciences Exhibit Hall. All available space in the main ballroom was occupied by the 25 booths provided exhibitors, including publishers, biological supply houses, and instrument concerns interested in the biological sciences.

During the ensuing three days each society held sessions at which scientific papers were read and also participated in a number of joint symposia where subject interests crossed society lines. One of the advantages of a meeting of biological societies such as this is the opportunity it provides for allied biological fields to share their advances in knowledge. Of the 589 papers presented at the sessions, 263 were in programs arranged by the Botanical Society of America, 149 by the American Society for Horticultural Science, 81 by the Genetics Society of America, and 61 by the Ecological Society of America.

The symposia and forum discussions on broad aspects of biological science were an important part of the meetings. The American Society for Horticultural Science held a joint symposium with the National Committee on Fertilizer Application, which included such timely topics as "Future of Leaf Analysis as a Diagnostic Tool for Determination of Fertilizer Requirement of Fruit Crops" and "Use of Fertilizer Solutions in Leaf Feeding." It joined with the American Society of Plant Physiologists in a symposium on "Why Plants Grow Where They Do." Another interesting symposium of the horticulturists was "Investigations in Polyploidy of Fruits."

The American Society of Human Genetics presented a symposium on "Human Genetics and Human Welfare." The presidential address, delivered by Lee R. Dice (University of Michigan), dealt with "Heredity Clinics: Their Value for Public Service and for Research." An open house at the Dight Institute added to the interest of the sessions.

The American Society of Naturalists included in its program a symposium on "Patterns of Cellular Organization." The presidential address, by Paul C. Mangelsdorf (Harvard), had as its subject "Evolution under Domestication."

The American Society of Plant Physiologists arranged most of its program jointly with the Physiological Section of the Botanical Society. In addition, a symposium on "Organic Acid Metabolism in Higher Plants" was presented. At the annual banquet, K. V. Thimann gave the address of the retiring president, and Birgit Vennesland gave the Stephen Hales Lecture.

The Botanical Society, as usual, had its sessions organized in various sections. Some of these included symposia of general interest, including "Vegetation of the Upper Great Lakes Region" in the systematic section, "Experimental Work on Teaching of Botany" and "Sequence of Subject Matter in General Botany" in the teaching section, and "Phylogeny and the Fern-Pteridosperm Complex" in the paleobotanical section. At the Botanical Society banquet—a palatable blend of science, art, and humor—Dr. Blakeslee, of Smith College, former president of the AAAS, gave the address.

The Ecological Society's program at Lake Itasca included a terrestrial ecology trip (The Maple-Basswood-Prairie Ecotone, Mary's Lake Deer Enclosures, and Twin Lakes Bog Succession) and an aquatic ecology trip. The campus meeting included, in addition to the usual paper-reading sessions, symposia on "The Definition, Evolution, and Significance of Ecological Niches for Animals" and "The Application of Ecological Knowledge to Water Conservation." Joint sessions with the Grassland Research Foundation included a symposium on "Ecology of Grassland Utilization in Central United States," and there was also a joint meeting with The Nature Conservancy. At the

annual banquet, Past President E. Lucy Braun gave the address on "Our Eastern Forests—in Kodachrome."

The Genetics Society had a program almost entirely of contributed papers; in addition, this society had a joint symposium with the naturalists on "Patterns of Cellular Organization." The Mycological Society held several joint sessions with the microbiological section of the Botanical Society, and jointly with the Society for Industrial Microbiology there was presented the annual lecture of the Mycological Society on "Molds, Mutants, and Monographers," by Charles Thom, of Port Jefferson, N. Y.

On Monday evening the American Institute of Biological Sciences arranged a meeting for members of all the participating societies. Following a short address of welcome by President Morrill, the keynote speech of the evening was given by Alan T. Waterman, director of the National Science Foundation. His topic, "Federal Support of Fundamental Research in the Biological Sciences," appears in its entirety in the October issue of the *AIBS Bulletin*. The Institute also sponsored a symposium on "The Economics of Journal Publication," with A. J. Riker, of the University of Wisconsin, chairman of the AIBS Publications Committee, presiding. Representative journal editors, as well as representatives from different types of printing establishments, took part in the discussion.

## Scientists in the News

**Allen V. Astin** has been appointed acting director of the National Bureau of Standards. Dr. Astin has been with the bureau since 1932. Recently he has been an associate director in charge of the Divisions of Electricity, Electronics, Ordnance Development, Missile Development, and the Office of Basic Instrumentation.

**Robert M. Burns**, chemical director of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, will receive the Perkin Medal, outstanding honor conferred for achievement in American industrial chemistry. The Jury of Award consists of representatives of the American Chemical Society, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the Electrochemical Society, and the American Section of the Société de Chimie Industrielle, in addition to officers of the American Section of the Society of Chemical Industry, under whose auspices the medal is awarded. The formal award of the medal to Dr. Burns is scheduled for Jan. 4. The Perkin Medal was founded in 1906 in honor of William Perkin, who that year celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his discovery of the first synthetic dye, and who received the first impression of the medal in honor of the event. The medal is awarded annually to "a member of the chemical profession residing in the United States for outstanding work in applied chemistry."

**A. Buzzati-Traverso**, professor of genetics at the University of Pavia, Italy, has been appointed visiting professor of genetics for the fall semester at the

On the last evening, AIBS gave the participants an opportunity to relax at the Biologists' Smoker.

The meeting last year at Ohio State University was the first large-scale campus meeting of biological societies; even though it was an initial attempt, it proved so satisfactory that the same group expressed a desire for another fall campus meeting under AIBS sponsorship this year. The University of Minnesota generously offered its facilities for the purpose and cooperated so effectively that this year's meeting was most satisfactory from every viewpoint. At the request of many of the AIBS societies, a 1952 fall meeting is planned, with Cornell University as host, and a 1953 fall meeting, with the University of Wisconsin as host. Biologists should appreciate this willingness of university administrations to invite them to their campuses, since it is no simple matter to provide adequate accommodations for so many visitors for a three-day period.

With the duality of meeting sites and times of year now provided by both AAAS and AIBS, the biological societies have an unusual opportunity to plan ahead for the type of meeting best suited to their needs, or to utilize the opportunity to offer sessions for members in different sections of the country.

CLARENCE J. HYLANDER

*Executive Secretary, AIBS*

Department of Zoology of the University of California, Berkeley.

At the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, **Victor C. Calma** has accepted appointment as assistant professor of physiology, and **Edward G. Rennels** has been appointed assistant professor of anatomy. **Kenneth Franklin**, professor of physiology at the University of London, will be guest lecturer in physiology during the week of Nov. 12. Dr. Franklin is visiting professor of physiology at the University of Illinois, Urbana.

**Frederick C. Chang**, former chairman of the Department of Chemistry at Lingnam University, Canton, has joined the staff of the University of Tennessee Medical Units as lecturer in chemistry and research associate in pathology. Before he went to China in 1946, Dr. Chang was a research associate at Harvard.

The North Dakota Cancer Society has awarded a grant-in-aid of \$27,400 to **W. E. Cornatzer**, professor and head of the Department of Biochemistry, University of North Dakota Medical School, to establish a radioactive isotope laboratory for the treatment of cancer and to study the metabolism in experimental cancer with isotopes.

**Palmer M. Craig** is now vice president—engineering of the Television and Radio Division of the Philco Corporation. Mr. Craig joined Philco in 1933 as a senior radio receiver engineer. He served as chief engineer in charge of radar and military radio develop-

ment during World War II and was named chief engineer of the company's radio division in 1943.

**Bruce Dickerson**, of the Engineering Department of Hercules Powder Company, has been awarded the 1951 Industrial Wastes Medal sponsored by the Federation of Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association. Mr. Dickerson earned the award for his article, "High-Rate Trickling Filter Operation on Formaldehyde Wastes," which appeared last April in *Sewage and Industrial Wastes*.

The Fourteenth Annual Louis Gross Memorial Lecture was delivered at the Jewish General Hospital, in Montreal, under the auspices of the Montreal Clinical Society, by **Myron Prinzmetal**, associate professor of medicine, UCLA, on the subject "The Auricular Arrhythmias."

**Frank H. Spedding**, director of the Institute for Atomic Research at Iowa State College, has been awarded the 1952 William H. Nichols Medal of the American Chemical Society's New York Section. Dr. Spedding was cited for his "outstanding contributions in the constitution, properties and chemistry of the rare earth and actinide elements."

**Thomas A. Spragens** has been elected secretary-treasurer of The Fund for the Advancement of Education, and **John K. Weiss** has been named assistant vice president. Mr. Spragens served from 1946 to 1951 as assistant to the president of Stanford University. Mr. Weiss has been secretary to the Board of Trustees of State University of New York for the past two and one-half years.

**Allen J. Sprow**, assistant editor, *Psychological Abstracts*, has been appointed to the additional post of Education, Philosophy, and Psychology Librarian at the University of Illinois.

**L. K. Stringham** has been appointed chief engineer for The Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland. Mr. Stringham, an electrical engineer, has been with Lincoln since 1933, working continuously in the engineering department.

**Vittorio Tonolli** is the new director of the Istituto Italiano di Idrobiologia at Pallanza, Lago Maggiore, Italy, succeeding the late **Edgardo Baldi**.

**Paul A. Van Pernis** has been appointed pathologist and director of laboratories at Swedish American Hospital, Rockford, Ill., and clinical instructor in pathology at the University of Illinois College of Medicine.

The Institute of International Education has named **John D. Wilson** a vice president. A former member of the Harvard economics department, Mr. Wilson has been with the New York Life Insurance Company. The institute is a private agency in the field of international exchange of persons under the sponsorship of the U. S. government, foreign governments, colleges and universities, and private organizations here and abroad.

## Education

The **American University of Beirut**, Lebanon, will hold its second Middle East Medical Symposium Nov. 9-11. Ten countries will be represented, and the attendance is expected to reach 600. Approximately 25 outstanding medical men, whose expenses will be paid by their own organizations, will speak on infectious diseases, preventive medicine, and public health. The annual symposium was organized by Neal J. Conan, Jr., a New York physician who is chief of internal medicine at American University.

**Brandeis University** Institute of Adult Education will present a series of six Thursday evening lectures in its "Frontiers in Science" course, which began on Oct. 25 with a lecture by Robert A. Thornton on "The Nature and Functioning of Science." On Nov. 1, Rene J. Dubos spoke on "Disease and Society;" Hugh S. Taylor will discuss "Chemistry and Human Resources" on Nov. 15; Harlow Shapley, "Elements of Cosmogony" on Nov. 29; and Kirtley F. Mather, AAAS president, will try to predict "The Future of Man as an Inhabitant of the Earth" on Dec. 6.

At **Bryn Mawr** the James Llewellyn Crenshaw Memorial Lectures on "Sources of Energy" are being given by Farrington Daniels (Oct. 29); Cornelis B. van Niel (Nov. 5); Henry D. Smyth (Nov. 12); and M. King Hubbert (Nov. 19). The lectures are part of a program of the Committee on Coordination of the Sciences, made possible by a gift of the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

**Drexel Institute of Technology** celebrated its sixtieth anniversary Oct. 30-Nov. 1 with a program that included 14 panel discussions of subjects ranging from banking through metals, oil, and transportation, to the place of women in industry. Psychology, human resourcefulness as the dominating element for the petroleum industry, machinery and equipment, and chemistry were other subjects discussed by more than 50 distinguished panel participants.

**Duke University** School of Medicine has enrolled 13 physicians in a five-month course in the medical aspects of nuclear energy, sponsored by the Atomic Energy Commission. Nine doctors are from the armed forces, three are attending under AEC postdoctorate fellowships, and one is from the U. S. Public Health Service.

Graduate fellowships awarded at **Lehigh University** will amount to more than \$20,000 and will go to 24 students, including five from foreign countries. The highest award, the Linde Air Products Company fellowship, went to Glenn W. Olyer (Fayetteville) for continuation of his studies in metallurgy. Dogan E. Gucer (Istanbul) is the recipient of the William C. Gotshall scholarship in metallurgy, and Erwin H. Bareiss (Thayngen-Schaffhausen, Switzerland), of the C. Kemble Baldwin fellowship for work in applied mathematics; Sheng Tai Shih (Wuchang, China) and Claude E. Hellman (Moselle, France) received funds for work in metallurgy under Roy R. Hornor grants.

## Grants and Fellowships

**American Cyanamid Company** has established a two-year graduate fellowship at the Institute of Textile Technology, Charlottesville, Va., for a course of studies in textile chemistry. Richard P. Barber, of Taunton, Mass., a graduate of Bradford Durfee Technical Institute, has been selected as the first fellow. During the 1952 summer vacation he will work at one of the member textile mills associated with the institute.

The **American Society for the Study of Sterility** will award a prize of \$1,000 for the best essay on the subject of infertility and sterility. The winning contribution will be part of the program of the 1952 meeting of the society. For full particulars, address the society at 20 Magnolia Terrace, Springfield, Mass.

Engineering student winners in the first national scholarship contest sponsored by the **American Society of Tool Engineers** are John Wayne Boring, University of Kentucky; James A. Richman, State University of Iowa; William H. Garlock, University of Kansas; and William P. Ryan, Villanova. The ASTE plans to present similar awards annually.

Through a gift to the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues by the Harwood Manufacturing Corporation, an **Industrial Relations Research Award** will be presented at the September 1952 meeting of the American Psychological Association to the individual whose research is judged most meritorious as a scientific contribution to the understanding of labor-management relations. Address inquiries to Helen S. Service, SPSSI, Department of Psychology, Columbia University.

Northwestern University will receive approximately a million dollars from the estate of Herman L. Kretschmer, Chicago urologist who died Sept. 23. The money is to be used to establish the **Lucy and Edwin Kretschmer Fund** for special studies and investigations in the field of urology in the Medical School.

**National Institute of Mental Health** has allocated \$506,042 to the continued support of 38 investigations now in progress and \$276,719 to 20 new research projects. Three of the new grants will support studies of mental health related to industrial living. Marie Jahoda, of the New York University Research Center for Human Relations, Reuben Hill, of the University of North Carolina, and Arthur Kornhauser, of Wayne University, will conduct this research. The largest amount (\$45,915) went to Robert R. Sears, of Harvard, for an investigation of child rearing in relation to personality development. Edith B. Jackson, of Yale, received \$37,047 for a continuation of the rooming-in project.

The University of Nottingham invites applications for appointment in 1952 to a **Research Fellowship** established by the Nottinghamshire Council of the British Empire Cancer Campaign. The fellowship will be tenable for not less than three years, and the salary

will range from £900 to £1,000 with reasonable technical and other assistance. Address Registrar, University Park, Nottingham, Eng.

The first recipient of the **Mrs. John S. Sheppard Foundation** fellowship is John Malcolm Smith, instructor in government at Columbia. Dr. Smith will study the place of temperance in education in a state system of liquor control.

## Miscellaneous

The **Bureau of Plant Industry**, Beltsville, Md., celebrated its golden jubilee Oct. 24-26 with a series of talks by leading plant scientists. David Fairchild, C. S. Schofield, C. L. Shear, T. H. Kearney, W. T. Swingle, W. R. Beattie, Carlton R. Ball, and Percy Ricker, retired employees of the bureau, were honored at a dinner during the closing session.

Calling themselves the **Guinea Pig Club**, representatives from each medical school in Chicago and from hospital and research institutions met on Sept. 13, the 100th anniversary of the birth of Walter Reed, to form an organization in which membership will be limited to medical scientists, students, and technicians who have served in any way as human test material for medical research. At the meeting of the first chapter, a committee composed of Anton J. Carlson, chairman, Max Sadove, Andrew C. Ivy, Andrew H. Ryan, W. W. Baur, and John Sembower was appointed to organize the club on a national basis. Activities of the group will include meetings at which papers will be presented, the presentation of some form of honorary recognition for outstanding volunteer service, and the publicizing of the codified rules now in effect for the conduct of experimental procedures on human beings. The formal name "Walter Reed Volunteers" was decided upon at the meeting. Suggestions and comments will be welcomed and should be addressed in care of the National Society for Medical Research, 185 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago 1, Ill.

**Charles N. Frey**, Scarsdale, N. Y., was elected president of the Institute of Food Technologists at the annual meeting held in New York last summer.

New journals recently received here include the *Journal of the Institute of Polytechnics*, Osaka City University, Vol. 1, No. 2 (Oct. 1950); and *Optica Acta*, sponsored by the International Commission of Optics, Acting editor of the last-named is A. Maréchal, and all articles are in either English or French. Stanley S. Ballard, Tufts College, Medford 55, Mass., will supply further information. Vol. 1, No. 2, of the *Pakistan Journal of Forestry* (April 1951), and Vol. 1, No. 1, of the *Pakistan Journal of Health* (April 1951) have also been received. The Royal Australian Chemical Institute has begun publication of a new quarterly, *Reviews of Pure and Applied Chemistry* (Vol. 1, No. 1, March 1951), which replaces its earlier *Journal and Proceedings*. The *American Fertilizer*, trade publication, has been renamed *American Fertilizer and Allied Chemicals*, and technical experts in insecticides have been added to the staff.